

TEST OF SCHOOLS IN FUTURE WILL BE EFFICIENCY

(Continued From First Page.)

reference truth and hate a lie, whether they love their fellow man and delight to do justice. We ask, not for ignorance, but that character shall not be lost under the details of superficial intellectual culture. We can afford to drop our pride in alleged culture if we can grow lives.

Service in Watchword.
In handling his theme, "Moral Education," Dr. Cope repeated in different form the thought that has run through the entire conference—the "hitching up" of studies to the needs of the community life, efficiency for service. He was heard with the most profound attention by the immense crowd in the auditorium of the John Marshall High School. A trained speaker, powerful in presentation, he had his audience with him and easily made one of the best addresses in the history of the organization.

At 10 o'clock last night the registration of teachers and school workers had reached 1,550, by far the largest in the seven years during which the conference has been held. There are many others who have not registered—some who have means of their own and do not claim mileage, and others who, because they are visitors and not delegates, feel they need not or should not register.

Eggleston's Promise.
Before the School Trustees' Association yesterday morning at 10 o'clock State Superintendent J. D. Eggleston pledged his honor that when the time comes next May to elect the division superintendents of schools for the next term he will be guided by no consideration save the good of the schools and will consider nothing save getting the best man for the community with the available money. No personal or political consideration, and no consideration from any source, shall influence his vote, he said, in the State Board of Education.

Superintendent Eggleston asked the trustees to co-operate in this—to consider who the best man is, to carefully go over the situation, weighing every consideration, and yet considering nothing but the good of the schools and of the children. If this is done, he predicted the new superintendents will be named without trouble.

At the afternoon session the trustees passed a resolution by unanimous vote endorsing the administration of Mr. Eggleston and expressing appreciation for his public services to the Commonwealth in the cause of education.

Should Keep Politics Out.
Harry St. George Tucker, addressing the general meeting of the conference yesterday, advised the officers and teachers to keep politics forever out of the schools and churches of Virginia. He wanted higher salaries paid, but thought the highest of all should go to those who teach the youngest children, believing that the primary schools should be the highest and best material in view of the influence they exert over the life of the child.

This meeting was also addressed by Richard Evelyn Byrd, Speaker of the House of Delegates, who besought individual training in unselfishness. He portrayed the protective tariff system as an example of selfishness, which

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he said had brought the nation into industrial servitude.

In an address before the trustees, N. E. Clement, of Pittsylvania, attacked the proposition which was before the last Legislature to have school trustees elected by the people. He asserted it would be a terrible blow to the public school system of this State.

Formation of Habits.
Dr. Augusta F. Bonner, of Columbia University, spoke before the Primary Teachers' Department on habit formation, making one of the most forceful addresses of the conference. She was heard with pleasure by a large audience. Miss Bonner will speak again to-day.

Dr. J. P. McConnell presided at the general meeting last night. The first speaker was Dr. S. D. Long, president of the Washington College, at Abingdon. His subject, "The Place of the Church College in the System of Education," was well received. He said it is beyond the office of the State to teach religion, and in doing so the church college is a valuable ally of the government, occupying an important place in the system, as religion occupies such an important place in the life of the citizens who make up the State.

Development of Personality.
Dr. Cope, who was next, spoke in part as follows:

There is just one guiding principle which will apply to all the problems of

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Rev. Henry F. Cope, A. M. D. D., of Chicago.

education as they rise; it is that the business of education is the development of efficient personality.

The schools exist to grow the life of youth in the growing period into the best possible type of rightly ordered personal and social living. The normal product of education by the degrees is adjusted, well-motivated, efficient citizens. The business of studies, the courses, the training in arts and trades are all but the means by which the great end is secured, they are not ends in themselves. An educator is not one who causes us to know many things, but one who, by leading us, stimulating us to the knowledge of things, brings us to the knowledge and development of ourselves. You can never test any system of education by the degrees it confers. Hanging degrees on a donkey's ears in no way affects his vocal organs. We must test all our educational institutions by the product of manhood and womanhood competent to live their life and do the service of their day.

"The making of a moral person is the largest problem that can engage the civil institutions. The backing of that person with a religious ideal and a spiritual power is the great purpose of the churches. Our social problems all await personal solutions. You can never make this world right by putting up fences, called laws, nor by improving the conditions of living alone. You can never make it what it ought to be by giving all its people the ability to speak several tongues and to labor through calculus. We will never cure human ills by getting at the sources and the streams of human conduct."

"The aim of education is complete social evolution. The hindrances are persons ignorant of the laws of living and untrained to live aright, blind to their own possibilities, unaware of the lives of plants and the courses of the stars. It is time we taught the laws of our own lives. That is what all moral instruction ought to be—something finer than memorizing rules of conduct, learning to live our own lives as persons set in a world of personality."

Must Put Life First.
"Really to teach the art of right living will mean to abandon the present factory methods in our schools, giving teachers smaller classes, choosing teachers for their powers of leadership, not for their cheapness; paying more in taxes for the tremendous task of public education; abandoning our follies, our weak pride, our traditional trifles and putting life before everything else in the curriculum."

"It must mean a closer co-operation between the churches and the schools. An all-around demand for the product of efficient lives, lives able to live right and to make this a right world, for the results of both church and school made evident in such lives. The new tests of Americanism must be not wealth of things, but wealth and leadership of personality. We must take the great immigrant tide and teach these newcomers that American means paying more for manhood than for money, setting the soul on top and living for the liberty of truth and right. For so large a task the school must have the aid of the churches. There can be no efficient morality without the religious spirit. Men are not made to love right by learning its rules. Moral living must be rooted in spiritual motives. The church must see her task here in making good men and take it up as seriously as the schools."

Near From League Work.
This will be Co-Operative Education Association day in the conference. For two hours this morning the association will have a general meeting in the auditorium. Mrs. B. B. Munford, the president, will preside. The work of school leagues during the year will be reviewed.

To-night's meeting of the conference will be under the auspices of this association. Mrs. Munford will make her annual address, and Dr. Henry Louis Smith, president of Washington and Lee University, will make the closing address of the evening and of the conference.

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BYRD AND TUCKER ADDRESS MEETING

Speaker of House Tells How Selfishness Has Resulted in Industrial Servitude.

TUCKER TALKS ON POLITICS

Urges Trustees to Work to Keep Schools Forever From Political Influences.

As a result of a policy of selfishness as fostered by the protective tariff system, this whole nation has passed into industrial servitude. The remedy is in the individual desire for honesty and fair play. So said Richard Evelyn Byrd, Speaker of the House of Delegates, addressing the general meeting of the Virginia Educational Conference yesterday morning under the auspices of the School Trustees Association.

Following him came Harry St. George Tucker, who pressed home the principle that public office is a public trust and not a private snap. He told how public men are trustees for the people, and how frequently they are false to their trust.

"If the great public school system of Virginia ever perishes from the face of the earth," said Mr. Tucker, "it will be because of politics in the schools." The audience approved this sentiment by prolonged applause.

W. H. Whiting, Jr., president of the trustees, was in the chair. F. T. Briggs, of Portsmouth, acted as temporary secretary.

Byrd Is Speaker.

Speaker Byrd, the first speaker, said in part:

"I fully recognize the great function and the great responsibility of the teacher. I recognize him as one of the most important contributors to those social forces, the play of which determines the direction in which a nation is moving. He is the most potential factor in moulding the opinions of those who later will establish a public opinion which in this country, is the real government."

Further discussing the same thought, Mr. Byrd continued:

"Because public opinion is general opinion—average opinion—the opinion of the average man—it necessarily depends for its force and direction upon the public opinion which in this country, is the real government."

"Government in the long run fairly represents the average intelligence and average morality of the people governed."

Must Conquer Selfishness.
The individual as he exists was then given to Mr. Byrd said:

"A conquest of any national evil involves first of all a conquest over ourselves. It is not possible to reform any public wrong until in ourselves we reform the vicious instincts which are faithfully reflected from the people of the government."

"We cannot receive equity from the government unless we, as individuals, are willing to extend it to our neighbors."

"A striking instance of this is found in that economic heresy we call a protective tariff."

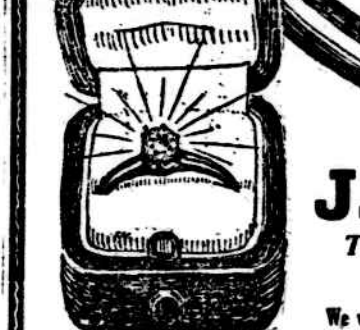
"Such a tariff is designed to enable one man to get what he has not earned from another man who earns what he does not get. This abuse of law is due to the selfishness of individual communities. Each district wants protection for what it produces, or, in other words, the right to demand exorbitant and artificial prices for such products."

"A Congressman who seeks by law some special advantages for his own district finds that he must yield similar advantages to other districts, all equally wrong and demoralizing to the nation."

"As a result of this policy, great and dominating industrial groups arise, which, though hated and feared, are their continued existence to the selfishness of the constituent parts of the nation. As the result of this policy of selfishness, the whole nation has gone into industrial servitude."

Tucker on Trusteeship.
Harry St. George Tucker, presented by Mr. Whiting, laid down these postulates: "Society is the trustee for government, government is the trustee for man, man is the trustee for the talents God has given him."

Proceeding Mr. Tucker said that Governors and Congressmen and legislators, as well as school officials, are trustees for the people. The school trustees, he said, are as important as the Governor, though their salary is not quite so large. Teachers, he said, should be better paid. And he went further and advocated the largest sub-



ary to those who teach the youngest children. His reason for this is that the woman who has charge of the child in its earliest years leaves her lasting impress, and it matters little who has control the rest of his life. Therefore the best teachers should be those in the kindergarten and primary grades, and they should be paid enough to get the best.

Must Give Reckoning.
"Suppose John Montgomery there put \$10,000 in my hands as trustee for him. I use that money and make large profits, and John at last asks for an accounting. I may offer him his capital back, with interest, saving for myself great profits. What would the courts say to me? 'Give back Montgomery's money and its earnings; disgorge every cent of it.' Public office is like that: it is a public trust, not a private snap."

"I once heard a United States Senator say that he was in great luck that day; he had secured an appropriation of \$20,000 to improve streets near his home. That man had violated his trust. As school trustees your trust is the most sacred. John Montgomery can watch me if I handle his money; the infants of the Commonwealth have not the power to watch you."

Eaches Selfishness.
"Here we find a trustee with a daughter who is merely waiting for John to get in a financial condition to take her into himself. The temptation is great to that trustee to say to himself: 'True, my daughter is not very well equipped as a teacher, but what well equipped as a trustee for nothing? Why not give her a school, so that she can earn enough for clothes and to help John make the nest?'"

Such temptations come to every man who lives. Or he may have a chance to locate a school opposite his home, instead of down at the forks of the road, where the most people live. Or he may not vote for consolidation unless he or his get the contract to drive the school wagon. Of course none of these things happen in Virginia, but I have heard a good deal about them in North and South Carolina."

"I tell you, if this great school system of Virginia ever perishes from off the face of the earth it will be because of politics in the schools. I believe in politics; you know it. It is an exalted and useful vocation. But I adjure you, as you believe in and hope for the glory and future usefulness of this Commonwealth, keep politics out of our public schools."

"Why should you keep a girl out of a school because her father voted for Taft or Teddy? It is an unworthy thought. As we love our State, let us keep out of the political arena forever the church and the school in Virginia."

**FORMING HABITS
IMPORTANT WORK**

Dr. Bonner Tells How Young Children May Be Influenced Unconsciously.

Habit formation was the subject of an exceedingly strong address delivered yesterday morning in the John Marshall High School auditorium before the department of primary teachers by Miss Augusta F. Bonner, B. S., A. M., instructor in educational psychology at Columbia University, New York. She was heard by a large audience, and was given repeated and enthusiastic applause.

Miss Bonner constantly impressed the fact that to guide the formation of good habits, it is absolutely necessary to begin at an early day. The very young child may be influenced unconsciously, and can form the desired habit—whether of study, reading, quick apprehension—without being aware of it.

Another point of which she made much was that there is too little disposition to praise the child for its good work. Teachers as well as par-

ents are quick enough to correct and punish when the little one offends, but too often overlook the praise which encourages that which it sought. Appreciation is most valuable to the childish mind, she said.

Miss Bonner will speak again this morning before the same department on "Some Vital Relations Between the Kindergarten and the Primary School." The Virginia Kindergarten Union will meet with the primary teachers.

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TAKING POLITICS OUT OF SCHOOLS

Eggleston Pledges Trustees He
Will Choose Superintendents
for Merit Alone.

"I here pledge my honor, in the fear of God and in the presence of man, that my vote in the State Board of Education next May on the election of division school superintendents, will be cast with but one end in view—the good of the schools, getting the best man for the money and for the good of the community. No sort of personal or political pressure shall weigh with me, so help me God."

This pledge was made by Superintendent J. D. Eggleston, of the Department of Public Instruction, yesterday morning before the meeting of the School Trustees' Association in the Mechanics' Institute.

"The trustees can help greatly in the matter of the selection of superintendents for the new term," said Mr. Eggleston. "Let us all get together. Let the trustees carefully and patriotically talk the situation over, with the sole aim to get the best man for the money at their disposal. Let them make their recommendations to the State Board of Education. If this is done by all with only the public good in mind, there will be little feeling, little difference and little regret on the part of any one."

For some time Mr. Eggleston discussed the best method of distribution of the graded school fund. Financial problems of interest to school trustees were discussed by H. H. Addicks, of Broadway, and D. C. Graham, of Bridgewater. W. H. East, of Churchville, had something to say about the blacklisting of teachers who do not live up to their contracts.

**HEARTY APPROVAL
FOR EGGLESTON**

Administration of State Superintendent Unanimously Indorsed by Trustees

By unanimous vote, the School Trustees' Association of Virginia, at its final meeting yesterday afternoon in the auditorium of the John Marshall High School, gave unqualified endorsement of the administration of J. D. Eggleston as Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The resolution, as offered by John R. Norton, of Prince Edward County, was as follows:

"Resolved, That we, the trustees of the State, now in session, would put on record our most hearty endorsement of the administration of our superintendent, J. D. Eggleston, in advancing the

the school interests of the State."

Vigorous protest against election of school trustees by a vote of the people, as proposed in the last session of the Legislature, was made by N. E. Clement, of Pittsylvania County, in his address at the trustees' meeting. He said it would strike a serious blow to popular education in Virginia. Mr. Clement, who discussed "The Care of Property in Rural Districts," said he would like to see the maximum school tax rate increased from 50 cents to 60 cents on the \$100. It could be done without burden on any one, he insisted, because the average assessed valuation of property is hardly more than a third of its real value. Again, he urged that a committee of the trustees be named to ask the next Legislature for more money with which to pay school teachers. "The General Assembly," he said, "should economize, but not at the expense of the public schools."

Consolidation of country schools was discussed by R. G. Kotner, of Staunton, and D. T. Meadows, of Loudoun. Mr. Kotner spoke of the difficulty of getting drivers of school wagons at the prescribed pay. He thought schoolhouses might be built big enough to house all the children for, say, a radius of two miles.

Introducing J. B. Crabtree, of Tazewell County, President W. H. Whiting, Jr., of the School Trustees' Association, commented on the subject, which was "What the Schools Need in the Southwestern Section of Our State."

(Continued on Third Page.)



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